

DEATH IN PYROTECHNIC

EXPLOSION OF STAR BOMBS AT A FL
IN CHESTER, PA.

Fourteen Persons Killed and Fifty or More Injured—Bodies of Men Thrown High in Air—The Old Porter Mansion Destroyed

CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 17.—A fire originated in the old storehouse in this city this morning known as the Porter mansion, it having been at one time occupied by Commodore Porter, and is now the residence of a prominent citizen. The structure was built in 1721, and commands a fine view of the Delaware River. A century ago it ranked among the imperial residences in the county, but time has nearly destroyed it, and it is now covered with smoke and ivy. For a number of years it has been occupied by colored people. A part of the man-

Jackson, the celebrated pyrotechnist, as a place for manufacturing his explosives. The firemen, although exhausted after spending the entire night at the Pennsylvania Military Academy fire, responded promptly to the alarm which sounded from the City Hall about 7 1/2

building, and the firemen began throwing water on the flames. A large crowd of citizens had gathered near the scene to watch the progress of the fire. The firemen, however, were unaffected by the noise from the old mansion, and the firemen, after being assured, it is asserted, that the fire was powerful in the place, prepared to flood the hotel with water. The firemen, to get a better range on the burning flames, got on a small frame shed in the rear of the building. After a few moments of playing on the building, a terrible explosion occurred, which filled the air with dust and soot, and the ground thereabouts was covered with vitrified stones, some of which were so large that they badly hurt some of the spectators who were passing the place. The fire continued throughout the city. The scene was one of terrible interest, and many of the heads of men lay rolled on the ground, or dead.

The dead were removed to the City Hall. The following is a list of the killed and wounded:

Killed—John Lamplugh, a boy; Thomas Dodson, age

Pollock, J. Kestner, son of Jos. Kestner, an ice dealer George Taylor, James Doughty, a carpenter, Benjamin Garside, age 28; Perry Williams (colored), janitor of the National Hall; Anthony Barber, an ex-policeman; William Wood, a member of the Franklin Fire Company; John Dairs, 13 years old; Edward Shropshire, an employee at Ronch's shipyard. Total, 14.

Injured—Chief Dalton of the Fire Department, wounded about the arms and body by falling stones, also a cut above the right eye; George Turner (colored), wounded

William McNeal, fatal injury: Water cranberry. 11. Edward Klinger, fatal 13 injured on the 12. William Warlow, slightly injured: Pease cranberry. 13. William Cowan, lower jaw of his foot torn off. Frank Wood, severely injured on the head. 14. Frank Wood, severely injured on the head. 15. Edward Long, a member of the team, severely wounded, about the heart, face, and arms. 16. Fred Taylor, severely injured on the back. 17. falling timber, but not dangerously injured. 18. Robert Taylor, covered severely and put in hospital. 19. William Taylor, severely injured on the arms. 20. company wounded on the head and right arm, though not seriously injured. 21. William Taylor, severely injured. Miss Jane Hay colored, slightly wounded, called Black colored, injured in the side but not fatally. 22. William Taylor, severely injured on the head, throat cut and internally injured. 23. Francis Smith, severely injured on the head, face, and throat, but not fatally.

the explosion. He did not even know that a explosion had occurred, and when he received his injuries. There were between twenty and thirty others injured more or less, but the names could not be learned.

Forward, Stork, Perkins, Mott, Delaney, Milner, Perkins, Stork, Weston, and Delaney were on the ground and all they could for the survivors. The others were in adjacent houses and others in the ground and in the houses.

Stork, Anthony Barber, who was holding on to the frame of the frame shed in which the explosion occurred, was the only one who was a fruitful mangled form. Perry Williams was blown to the ground and the Wilsons were lodged. The change to suit the Wilsons had been in that position half an hour and was slowly scorched to death. He was alive when he died to death.

of the victims who were killed were standing at Second and Welch streets, 150 yards from the explosion. The explosion was heard by the stones, bricks, and timber.

At the inquest, which was begun this afternoon, the fact was established that he was surprised on being told of the explosion as he considered the place safe. The stars used for the purpose of lighting the building had no explosive character in the building and these would not explode except by a strong concussion. It was also established that the cause of these, if the detonation had been of powder, the roof would have been blown off, but these stars were not of powder. It was also established that the walls of the building have been torn down. Some time ago an experiment was made in which a bomb was exploded in the room and broke the windows in the Union League room eighty feet away. There were probably ten feet of the detonation.

The Virginia City Gun. Camerón had issued a proclamation ordering Mayor Carter, with one thousand men, to meet him at the water tank in the place.

The Signal Office Prediction.

Colder fair weather north-easterly winds higher pressure.

SPARKS FROM THE TELEGRAPH.

Victoria is threatened with failure of its water supply. The House Committee on Banking will postpone the testimony of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The Anti-Monopoly League will begin a campaign against rail raising facilities at Rockaway, Mass.

Alfred E. Smith, Governor of New York, said the city was flooded yesterday by the flood of opposition.

Postmaster.

The United States mail will be suspended for the week of the Anglo-French commercial treaty and is virtually ended for the present.

George W. Lusk, of Pennsylvania, has been elected a member of the passenger train at Mount Lincoln yesterday morning.

The Senate after a long discussion in Executive session yesterday confirmed Max Baughman as Paymaster General.

John D. Rockefeller, the American scion, entered with training on the Thames yesterday. He was rescued and well swum.

The Interstate of the Military Academy building in

The House Martin F. Conway, a member of the Thirty-seventh Congress from Kansas and who subsequently was elected to the United States Senate, was in town for the Inauguration on Wednesday. He was 62 years old.

Mr. Conway, former Passenger Agent of the Chicago and North Western, had been visiting in the State of Vermont, but had expected the inauguration and had come to the city.

On Monday last a kind lady at 408 1/2 Ave. on the Hudson River, called at the city hall and asked to be taken into the River. The occupants of the house agreed to take her to the city hall and she was taken to the room. All were killed.

The House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, in a report made to the Senate on Monday last, recommended that the Post Office Building be sold to the House and that the House be recommended for the purchase.

In a meeting on Tuesday, existing between the House and the Senate, the House was recommended to purchase the Post Office Building.

The extra stock train on the Providence and Worcester Railroad broke in two yesterday morning near Woonsocket. The accident occurred about 10 o'clock when the detached portion, derailing the train, broke in two, throwing two into the river and wounding three. The loss to the road is estimated at between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

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